



**COUNCIL OF  
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**NOTE**

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from:	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
Subject:	Partial summary record of the meeting of the European Parliament <b>Committee on Regional Development (REGI)</b> , held in Brussels on 19 February 2013

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The meeting was chaired by Ms Hübner (EPP, PL).

**I. Common provisions on European Funds and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (REGI/7/07479)**

- Co-rapporteurs: Lambert van Nistelrooij (EPP) and Constanze Angela Krehl (S&D)
- Responsible committee: REGI
- Exchange of views with the rapporteurs on the ongoing interinstitutional negotiations

Co-rapporteur Krehl reported on the ongoing negotiations (three trilogues) and welcomed the very good pace of progress. She underlined that the Parliament was the first to propose a concrete text and that the issue of delegated acts would be the most challenging item. She hoped that the Commission would present a proposal along the same lines in the near future. Despite the challenging issues, she felt that it should still be possible to present the results of the negotiations to the plenary before the summer break. Co-rapporteur Lambert added that not everything has been solved yet and that there was still a significant amount of work ahead (i.e. macro-conditionality). He commented that the Commission had little, if any, margin for manoeuvre and moreover that it was not clear whether/to what extent the Parliament should work with the Council.

There were only two statements by MEPs. Mr Omarjee (GUE/NGL, FR) drew attention to the fact that the Parliament had to make sure today that its legislative powers were fully respected, otherwise this would become jurisprudence in the future, adding that the European Council allowed nearly no margin of manoeuvre for negotiations. He insisted that the Parliament should be firm on its mandate and avoid any watering down of cohesion policy. Mr Olbrycht had a more specific question on ITS.

Co-rapporteur Krehl replied that for the Parliament it was clear that a decision by the Council on the MFF touching co-decisions areas was to be considered only as a Council mandate, recalling that previous Council presidencies had always confirmed that interpretation. Regarding the Parliament mandate, she said that the situation was clear: if there was a problem which required a change to the mandate, this had to be dealt with by the committee and if necessary the plenary. Co-rapporteur Lambert added that he felt that other EU policies had suffered less budget cuts than cohesion policy, making it even more essential to ensure that cohesion policy operated smoothly and created real added value. He therefore argued for a modernisation of cohesion policy, which should be seen as part of a wider picture.

## **II. Specific provisions concerning the European Regional Development Fund and the 'Investment for growth and jobs' goal and repeal of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 (REGI/7/07470)**

- Rapporteur: Jan Olbrycht (EPP)
- Responsible committee: REGI
- Exchange of views with the rapporteur on the ongoing interinstitutional negotiations

The rapporteur reported in detail on the ongoing negotiations (one trilogue and a technical meeting). He indicated the points of agreement (extension of the scope of support, spending on research and innovation structures as well as small scale cultural and tourism infrastructures, added urban mobility, etc.) as well as the open points (5% allocation to functional urban areas, delegations in general, the establishment of an urban development platform, delegated/implementing acts, etc.). He also made clear that he was opposed to the idea that the Parliament should be responsible for setting up the performance indicators because this was a technical task.

There were only two interventions: Ms Delli (Greens/EFA, FR) considered that the situation was blocked and that the Commission was not always helpful. She stressed the scale of the role of housing as regards energy efficiency. Ms Ernst (GUE/NGL, DE) argued that the Parliament should stick to its position and should consequently not change its mandate.

The rapporteur agreed that the Parliament had included some essential elements and considered that there should be some flexibility on energy efficiency, which was one of the Parliament's priorities. He stated that it was up to the Committee to change the mandate.